

The Pocahontas Times.

If thou wouldst read a lesson that will keep Thy heart from fainting and thy soul from sleep, Go to the woods and hills. —Longfellow.

\$1.00 a Year

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Lam Lards.

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Prompt and careful attention
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joining counties.

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and in the Supreme Court of Appeals.

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Pocahontas and adjoining counties
and in the Court of Appeals of the
State of West Virginia.

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and in the Supreme Court of Ap-
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Prompt and careful attention
given to all legal business.

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J. M. CUNNINGHAM, M. D.
Physician and Surgeon,
MARLINTON, W. VA.

Office and residence opposite the
Marlinton Hotel. All calls an-
swered promptly.

L. J. MARSHALL, M. D.
Physician and surgeon,
MARLINTON, W. VA.

All calls promptly answered.
Office over Marlinton Drug Store.

DR. O. J. CAMPBELL,
Dentist,
MONTEREY, VA.

Will visit Pocahontas county at
least twice a year. The exact date
of his visit will appear in this
paper.

DR. M. STOUT,
DENTIST.

Has located and is ready for
business in the Bank of Marlinton
building, Marlinton, W. Va.

HENRY A. SLAVEN,

Practical Land Surveyor,
Meadow Dale, Virginia.

Maps and Blue Prints a specialty.
Work in Pocahontas County soli-
cited.

1865: AN EVENTFUL YEAR.

A Reminiscence of the Year Following the
War, when Pocahontas was a
Backwoods County

A young Couple had to swear Allegiance to the United States before
being Married. The big Academy at Monterey whose members are
filling almost every sphere. First
view of Marlinton.

The year 1865 was eventful. It
was a year of many surprises and
much confusion as is ever the case
in the compounding and settling
of diverse elements and evolution
of order from scenes of discord.
In 1865 we passed out of one military
rule into another; and uniformed
soldiers, camps, guards, army
ambulances, etc., were as common
sights as during the four years
previous. In 1865, a lady ere mar-
riage, must forsooth seek out a
dingy office on the city's outskirts
and with right hand uplifted swear
allegiance to the government of
the United States, the official re-
ceiving the oath inside a railing,
the lady outside like a prisoner at
the bar. With a little Confederate
money, or with barrels full of
it as the case might be, never a sin-
gle "green back" were all poor
together. But it was astonishing
the "root hog, or die" spirit that
blazed out everywhere. Fences
to open fields sprang up as if by
magic, mules jumped into the
plow, grounds that had seen no
crops for years save the tramping
of soldiers and army wagons grow
green with grass and cereals. The
farmer hummed a ditty from Mother
Goose's Melodies as he pursued
his labor so long interrupted and so
useful for bread and butter.

In cities during the war schools
had held their own pretty well,
but in the mountains and rural
districts boys and girls had been
grievously deprived of scholastic
advantages. There was a fine op-
portunity for this kind of work in
mutual benefit of teacher and taught,
and in 1865 W. T. P. laid the foun-
dation for an Academy in Mon-
terey in Highland County. The
departments ranged from the
primary to the classical, and from
the outset this school was large
and flourishing with steady
growth. Young men and maidens
three and four from out of a family
and little children flocked to it
as doves to window. I shall
please myself to recount the fami-
liar names of families that had rep-
resentatives with us in the school-
room: of course as time went on
others were added—I speak of the
beginning. There were Campbells,
Flemings, Laynes, Slavens, Jones
Stephensons, Prices, Trimble
Hines, Hills, Carvers, Mat-
thens, Birds, Shumates, Bensors,
Siberts, Chews, Newlins, Ker-
sits, Sillingtons, Noels, Warwicks, Pat-
tersons, Gynnes, Balls, Sullen-
bangers, Harpers, Fleishers, Hen-
dersons, Smiths, Varners and oth-
ers, in fact every household in
and around Monterey that had a
second generation old enough or
young enough for school answered
to the roll call in time of peace.

Mr. P.'s school was an an-
awake—it dealt with the literature
of the ancient dead languages,
with higher mathematics and
surveying, also with the polite for-
ign languages of today; and we
toiled mightily with the little
learners at the foot of Knowledge
Hill, to whom the alphabet and
nine digits were problems almost
incomprehensible. Yes, it was an
up to date academy, save in one
important particular—it lacked a
building. We did not teach out
of doors exactly, but it was next
neighbor to it, when the winds
roared down to us from the South-
ing Knob and the snows came
as they only come at Monterey.

When one can not get what one
wants one must take what he can
get, and following this principle,
we accepted for a schoolhouse the
dismantled Methodist Church that
had seen too much of border war-
fare for its own good or for re-
ference sake, seeing this house had
been dedicated to the service of
God, it verily looked as if it had
been in the service of Satan. A
large shell of a building, devoid of
seats or furniture, window
panes gone or cracked, the walls
defaced and defiled by charcoal
scribblings and grotesque figures;
only the bell hung pathetically in
the belfry as if ready to toll over
the buried hopes of the Southern
Confederacy. Instead it rang out

clear on the frosty mornings for
school master and marm, and the
various regiments of pupils under
command.

Just here I would state that
from this mountain school went
forth a respectable number taking
their places in the world for mark
and usefulness, as farmers, arti-
sans, teachers, lawyers, doctors,
dentists, and ministers of the gos-
pel. Among the maidens, many
who have proved lovely wives and
mothers whose sons and daughters
in their turn are now climbing
up as history repeats itself.

At the close of the first session
Revs. R. P. Kennedy and W. T.
Price held a series of good meet-
ings, preceded by a request for
prayer in the daily noon-day pray-
er meeting of Fulton Street, New
York, which resulted in important
issues to many souls in the school
and village. Doubtless many
Christian men and women of
today look back to the bare unsightly
old Methodist church of Mon-
terey, with its rough, unpolished
benches; its lofty ceilings and
wide arena so impossible to heat
above the freezing point blaze and
roar as the big stove might, as a
pleasant place where Lord Jesus
revealed Himself to their waiting
souls, a mighty Saviour and a
loving Friend.

Before another winter our school
was housed in a better building
and the third term we had a
brand new Academy built. I
hear that it has long since fallen
to ruins and that no trace of it is
left upon that high hill which on
little "urchin in deadly fear" of his
life mid ice and snow, aptly de-
scribed as "sort of stick."

If the present academy is in
lower ground it has certainly risen
in higher. Having referred to
the rigors of a Monterey winter,
I will speak of its delightful summer.
I am well aware that Virginia is enti-
tled to the proud distinction of being
the mother of presidents, but I
will not say to him that the Virginia
cow cannot be compared with the
big fat cows of the Mississippi
Valley and beyond. I am well aware
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